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15 through the California Highway Patrol, Blackwood,
16 Kee, and Rubalcava*

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18 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
19 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
20 EASTERN-RIVERSIDE DIVISION

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22 L.C.,

23 Plaintiffs,

24 v.

25 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,

26 Defendants.

27 No. 5:22-cv-00949 KK-SHKx

28 **JOINT STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

Date: May 15, 2025
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Courtroom: 3 (3rd Floor)
Judge: Honorable Kenly Kiya Kato
Trial Date: June 2, 2025
Action Filed: June 7, 2022

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30 The parties submit the following joint statement of the case for the trial in this
31 matter:

32 This civil case arises out of the fatal shooting of decedent Hector Puga by
33 California Highway Patrol Officers Michael Blackwood, Isaiah Kee, and Bernardo
34 Rubalcava and other law enforcement officers on February 17, 2021, near the
35 intersection of Peach and Catalpa Streets in Hesperia. The Plaintiffs are Mr. Puga's
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1 three minor children. The Defendants are Officers Blackwood, Kee, and Rubalcava
2 and the State of California.

3 Plaintiffs claim that the CHP Officers used excessive and unreasonable force
4 against Mr. Puga. Plaintiffs further claim that the officers were negligent in their
5 conduct and use of force against Mr. Puga. Plaintiffs seek money damages as
6 permitted by law.

7 Defendants assert that their actions were reasonable under the totality of the
8 circumstances because Mr. Puga presented an imminent threat of death or serious
9 bodily injury to the officers and others.

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11 Dated: May 8, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
NORMAN D. MORRISON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

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*/s/ Diana Esquivel**

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Dated: May 8, 2025

DIANA ESQUIVEL
Deputy Attorney General
*Attorneys for Defendants State,
Blackwood, Kee, and Rubalcava*

LAW OFFICES OF DALE K.
GALIPO

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/s/ Hang D. Le

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DALE K. GALIPO
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

*The filer, Hang D. Le, hereby attests that all other signatories listed, and on whose behalf the filing is submitted, concur with the filing's content and have authorized the filing.